

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A removable medium recording system for use in a medical imaging system that includes
2 a medical scanner that scans a patient and creates medical image data, *and*
3 a computer workstation coupled to said medical scanner, said computer workstation
4 including a first storage device capable of storing data on a first nonremovable storage medium
5 and a second storage device capable of storing data on a removable storage medium of a first
6 type, said first storage device operative to initially store medical image data received from said
7 medical scanner, ; *and*
8 said removable medium recording system comprising:
9 a third storage device capable of storing data on a second nonremovable storage medium,
10 said third storage device initially storing medical image data received from said computer
11 workstation; and
12 a fourth storage device capable of storing data on a removable storage medium of a
13 second type, said fourth storage device storing medical image data received from said computer
14 workstation onto said removable storage medium of a second type, wherein said fourth storage
15 device effectively replaces said second storage device in said computer workstation.
- 1 2. The medical image recording system of claim 1, wherein said computer workstation is a
2 digital imaging and communications in medicine compliant computer workstation.

1 3. The medical image recording system of claim 1, wherein said second storage device is a
2 magneto-optical drive.

1 4. The medical image recording system of claim 1, wherein said fourth storage device is a
2 compact disk drive.

1 5. The medical image recording system of claim 1, wherein said fourth storage device is a
2 digital video disk drive.

6. A medical image processing network, comprising:
 a communications network;
 at least one medical scanner, coupled to said communications network, that scans a
patient and creates medical image data;
 a computer workstation, coupled to said communications network, that is operative to
initially store medical image data generated by said medical scanner;
 a server, coupled to said communications network, that stores medical image data
received from said computer workstation in accordance with patient data received from said
hospital information system; and
 a removable medium recording station, coupled to said communications network as a
peripheral device, that receives medical image data to be recorded onto a removable medium.

1 7. The medical image processing network of claim 6, wherein said computer workstation is
2 a digital imaging and communications in medicine compliant computer workstation.

1 8. The medical image processing network of claim 6, wherein said computer workstation
2 includes a magneto-optical drive.

1 9. The medical image processing network of claim 6, wherein said removable medium
2 recording station includes a compact disk drive.

10. The medical image processing network of claim 6, wherein said removable medium
recording station includes a digital video disk drive.

11. A removable medium recording station, comprising:
 a communications facility for coupling said removable medium recording station to a
medical image system, said communications facility enabling said removable medium recording
station to be coupled to said medical image system as a peripheral device;
 a first storage device capable of reading medical image data from a first removable
storage medium;
 a second storage device capable of writing medical image data onto a second removable
storage medium; and

9 a processing means for controlling the process of copying medical image data from said
10 first removable storage medium to said second removable storage medium, wherein said process
11 of copying is performed independently of the operation of said medical image system.

1 12. The removable medium recording station of claim 11, wherein said medical image
2 system is digital imaging and communications in medicine compliant medical image system.

1 13. The removable medium recording station of claim 11, wherein said first removable
2 storage medium and said second removable storage medium are compact disks.

14. The removable medium recording station of claim 11, wherein said first removable
storage medium and said second removable storage medium are digital video disks.

15. The removable medium recording station of claim 11, wherein said processing means
converts the medical image data to a desired storage format prior to copying the medical image
data to said second removable storage medium.

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